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JOHN CULBERSON
7TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1728 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4307
202.225.2571
FAX 202.225.4381

DISTRICT OFFICE:
10000 MEMORIAL DRIVE, SUITE 620
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77024-3490
713.682.8828
FAX: 713.680.8070

INTERNET:
WWW.CULBERSON.HOUSE.GOV

March 14, 2007

The Honorable John Murtha
Chairman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense
H-149, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bill Young
Ranking Member, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Murtha and Ranking Member Young,

I am respectfully requesting funding for two projects that will provide important benefits for the Houston region as well as the nation in the FY2008 Defense Appropriations bill.

My number one priority is \$6 million from the Army Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation account (PE 0603002A, line 31) for the Alliance for NanoHealth (ANH). The Alliance for NanoHealth represents my highest priority among all projects in the appropriations process. I believe this collaboration between the University of Houston, the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Rice University, Baylor College of Medicine, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Galveston, Texas A&M University System Health Science Center, and the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston will develop into the world's leading center for nanobiology and nanomedicine. The ANH is requesting funding for specific military needs such as drug delivery vectors for battlefield situations, bio-sensor arrays for rapid and sensitive detection of biological agents of military importance, and novel wound coatings for fast wound healing and protection.

My second priority is \$5 million from the Air Force Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation account (PE 0602102F, line 2) for the Rice University Armchair Quantum Wire Program. This project's goal is to develop Quantum Wire and multi-functional materials based on Single-Wall Carbon Nanotubes (SWNT) for Advanced Aerospace Applications while improving SWNT production and processing technology, in collaboration with the AFRL/ML. The Armchair Quantum Wire is a continuous thread of well-aligned, well-packed metallic SWNTs. This thread is expected to conduct electricity better than copper at less than one-sixth of the weight, with minimal heating and with a 10 to 30-fold increase in current-carrying capacity.

I would also like to fully support the following requests made by other Members of Congress: Congressman Gene Green's request for \$3 million for the preservation of the Battleship Texas; Congressman Michael McCaul's request for \$2.5 million for the Enhanced Holographic Imager (Army R,D,T, & E, PE# 633015S33); and Congressman Jim Moran's request for the BESCT Lung Cancer Research Program at the MD Anderson Cancer Research Center. Finally, I request the Committee increase funds as necessary to accelerate production of Virginia Class submarines to ensure that United States Navy capabilities are not diminished in the future.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



John Culberson
Member of Congress

*Thank you
Mr. Chairman!*